10: Bush--161 [2] T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 157, 439, 492

"The Yakouts are a very quiet, inoffensive people, industrious, ingenious, and gifted with a natural business tact. They might, with propriety, be called the Yankees of Siberia. It is not uncommon to meet them in the most isolated regions with long trains of deer laden with trinkets of all kinds, which they peddle out to the nomadic tribes in exchange for pelts."

12: Galitzin -- 146 N-2 (no date) 1853 Yakut
116, 157, 261, 554, 609

"The Yacoutes are kind and officious: hospitality towards strangers is one of their virtues. At the same time they are suspicious, mistrustful, and timid. When occasion requires it, they are extremely sober, and a little sorà, or sour butter, suffices for their nourishment; but as soon as necessity has ceased to compel them, they become such gluttons as to render it difficult to give an idea how far their gluttony goes. A Yacoute is capable of devouring an extraordinary quantity of meat, but cares little about its quality or its freshness. The entrails of the animals and the ox's hide are aliments which do not cause him any disgust. To eat a fresh ox-hide, they are satisfied with putting it for a little while under hot ashes in order to make the hair fall off. Fat in a liquid state is one of their most exquisite dainties: They feed upon it without measure. Among them the faculty of being able to eat much is considered as a kind of merit fit to draw upon them respect. It is not uncommon to hear them say, when they praise some one of their people, 'Outio`a satchi khisi!' namely, 'That man there eats well'."

27: Coxwell--23 B-3 (no date) 1925 Yakut
116, 157, 538

"Various racial traits influence tales. The Tunguses, possessors of admirable qualities such as courage, patience, kindliness and courtesy, lack mental ability and energy. Consequently it is not astonishing that the account of the Creation, called the 'Beginning,' which is ascribed to them, is puerile. The Lapps are simple and gentle, and so, while they have wonderful myths, they would scarcely produce a cruel story like the Yakut 'Dyoudus.' Certain elementary Lappish stories, without a spark of fancy, imply a low mentality. It is true that the Lapps have some highly imaginative stories. But races such as the Kalmucks or Russians apparently seldom produce poor stories. The Russian tales are extraordinarily varied. Their polished drolls and personified abstractions and devout legends are quite beyond Siberian savages and barbarians, though the Kirghiz, Altaians and Yakuts have some fine heroic narratives comparable with the Russian epics."

27: Coxwell--34 B-3 (no date) 1925 Yakut
116, 157, 181, 538

"Such a trait as barbarity or cruelty is still so common among mankind that it would be remarkable if it did not here figure undisguised. But the callous narration of torture or of mutilation, which distinguishes certain stories among the Chukchis, the Ossetes and the Yakuts, differentiates them from anything which could occur among civilised races. Cruelty occurs among ourselves, but is only described with reprehension."

27: Coxwell--262 B-3 (no date) 1925 Yakut
116, 157, 197, 437

"The Yakuts occupy a territory, about twice the size of France, in the middle Lena basin. Their language bears a close relationship to that of other Turkish or Tatar stock; it being even said that the Yakut of the Lena and the Osmanli of Constantinople could without much difficulty understand one another. With a great talent for trade, the Yakut gets the better not only of the Tunguses, whose reindeer he often owns and whose furs he claims in advance, but also of the Cossacks. He is energetic and diligent when obliged to work or if faced with an alluring opportunity. Thus the Yakuts have increased largely in numbers, and the young Russians are glad to take wives from among their women."

36: Niemojowski-- 96-98 T-2 (no date) 1883 Yakut-1-2
116, 177, 577, 157, 147

" Living for centuries in this desert, and holding no communication whatever with the outside world, except when they come to sell fish and game to the travellers on the Lena, the Yakuts have preserved unimpaired their primitive character. No foreign element has influenced their habits, mode of living, or cus- [97] toms. No trace of civilization appears among them. Quiet , gentle, upright, and extremely patient, they are never the slaves of their passions, never give way to violent feelings of revenge or hate. Cunningness, falseness, and hypocrisy are unknown amongst them. Their word can always be relied upon; their promise is always fulfilled; an assurance once given is faithfully kept. The uprightness of these people is so great that in the annals of their quiet life there has never been an instance of cheating or stratagem, still less of crime. These noble qualities are the gift of Nature; but their incomparable patience is chiefly the result of climate and atmospheric influence.

This opinion is arrived at from general ethnographical considerations. All nations inhabiting the high northern latitudes are distinguished by this same virtue. The characters of Laplanders, Icelanders, and the inhabitants of the rocky confines of Norway bear the marks of this passive, lamb-like patience. The power which tends to level all inward demonstrations is the polar temperature, which congeals every violent motion of the blood, every strong feeling. Under this freezing influence, the rest-[98] lessness inborn in man is calmed, the passions sober down, and the man whose fate made him a

child of these northern latitudes becomes an automaton, impervious alike to cold and to an affront, and bearing with the same equanimity a box on the ear or a snowstorm. Patience which we consider a virtue, because it has its roots in moral power, overcoming tha agitation of the blood, becomes in these children of the North a defect in character. It is impossible not to pity these unfortunates, bearing with angelic patience the abuse and ill-treatment---generally brutal and invariably undeserved--- vented upon them by the small merchants or petty clerks travelling on the Lena. Yet they do not deserve contempt; they do not act thus from any want of self-respect, but rather from an apathy bordering on moral incapacity. They receive alike good or bad with equal faith in the justice of whatever befalls them."

36: Niemojowski --98-99 T-2 (no date) 1883 Yakut
116, 157, 609

" It often happens that the monotony of the journey on a raft, the want of occupation, and especially the knowledge of perfect impunity makes low and degraded shopkeepers' assistants, devoid of all feelings of humanity, do things which are beyond practical jokes, and [99] which closely resemble cruelty, but even then the unequalled patience of the Yakuts never forsakes them ."

36: Niemojowski--99-100 T-2 (no date) 1883 Yakut
116, 157

"The following anecdote has been related to me: --

Last year a few men were sent by their masters from Irkoutsk to transact some commercial business in Yakutck. After having finished their land journey, they, as it customary, went on board a raft, and with their guides and wares sailed on the river Lena. This journey appeared monotonous and tiresome to men accustomed to the amusements and dissipations of a large town, so, after having half-emptied the brandy barrel, played cards till they were tired, and given and received a good many bruises in friendly quarrels, they found themselves at the end of their resources, and did not know how to kill the time that still remained to be spent on board. Luckily the Yakuts' yourts found on the banks afforded a pastime much in vogue then. Landing every few hours under the pretext of buying fish or meat, they took the opportunity to annoy in every way the peaceful aborigines sitting quietly outside their huts but all their nice jokes, sometimes physically painful, produced no effect on the patient and gently Yakuts, accustomed [100] to such behaviour. The Yakuts only smiled sweetly, and wished them good-bye kindly and in a friendly manner, as if the Russians had been loading them with favours instead of insulting them incessantly."

36: Niemojowski-- 109-110 T-2 (no date) 1883 Yakut
116, 157, 609

"The sociability of the Yakuts, springing from their kind-hearted and gentle characters, would render them easily amenable to the benefits of civilization were it not for their extraordinary shyness and almost servile humility; considering men of other races, and especially Europeans, as being superior in every respect to themselves, they dare not compare themselves with them even in thought, and imagine that the [110] very idea of trying to imitate them is unpardonable impudence. If they listen respectfully to the insulting jokes of a wandering pedlar, or submit meekly to painful usage from drunken shopmen, it is not from cowardice or fear, but from the firm conviction of their own inferiority. Endowed by nature with indomitable courage, they are fearless in the presence of danger. It is a fine sight to see these short, thick-set men when the fierce and ravenous wolves attack their settlements; armed with spear or axe they valiantly defend their wives, children, and possessions; the expression of their countenance usually so gentle changes marvellously; their gentle eyes gleam with ardour; the features, generally characterized by a friendly smile, assume a look of cool energy and steadfastness. These unfortunate people, accustomed to all sorts of humiliations, who are made the sport of any low European drunkard, then suddenly rise to the level of heroes."

44: Gilder -- 189 J-2 (1882) 1883 Yakut
116, 157, 461, 485

"I saw that the Yakouts, who are the station masters upon the roads north of the city of Yakoutsk, are not the most enterprising and active people in the world, and it requires some management to secure the change of animals necessary to your journey. They are arrant cowards and can only be moved by bluster and threats. Kindness secures from them only imposition, while they seem to adore those who abuse and browbeat them."